IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

LINDA S. POWERS; WALTHER R. ELLIS, JR.;

CHRISTOPHER R. LLOYD

SER. NO.:

UNKNOWN

FILED HEREWITH:

FOR:

TAXONOMIC IDENTIFICATION OF PATHOGENIC

MICROORGANISMS AND THEIR PROTEINS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

November 12, 2003

Mail Stop New Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend Claim 73 as follows:

- 73. (Amended) A method for identification of a protein comprising:
 - (a) exposing the solution containing microorganisms to conditions resulting in the rupture of the microorganism and spilling of the contents into the solution selected from the group comprising chemical treatment, holins, enzymatic treatment, freeze-thaw cycling, bacteriophage infection, plasma discharge and physical treatment;
 - (b) exposing a solution containing the protein analyte to a ligand specific for the analyte of interest that has been covalently tethered with a photostable